

Abu Dhabi plans to launch wave of marina projects

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The Municipality of Abu Dhabi City is planning to launch projects to build new slipways and amenities for boating and jet-ski enthusiasts.

The organisation said that the facilities will include areas for trailer parking, wash-down areas, dry stack storage, marine fuelling facilities and supporting retail.

It plans to issue tenders next week for private sector companies to develop the facilities under a Build, Operate, Transfer model, which it said will allow it to involve experienced marine developers and operators to ensure first-class facilities.

"There are an estimate of 4,647 marine vessels are currently in use throughout the Abu Dhabi Emirate, which equals approximately 3.7 boats per 1,000 people," said Rashed Bin Ali Al Omaira, an advisor on investments and assets for the Municipality's general manager's office.

"This figure is expected to double, due to population growth, to over 10,000 vessels by 2030."

He said that the new marinas will increase the level of services on offer to Abu Dhabi's community as well as promoting marine tourism.

"Not only will these projects enhance the boating experience for thousands of enthusiasts, but it will also encourage safe and responsible launch and recovery of vessels and careful use of the maritime waterways."

Five new sites are proposed - Tawo at Abu Dhabi City Gate each covering an area of over 5,000m², Al Batteen (17,893m²), Al Sadar (11,653m² and at New Bahya (13,374m²)

